

REMARKS

This paper is submitted as a Request for Continued Examination and Amendment of the above captioned application.

The subject Office Action rejected claim 2 under 35 USC §112 because of the inclusion of the phrase "said document." Claim 2 is amended to overcome the rejection.

In responding to the rejections under 35 USC §103, it is submitted that the cited references do not pertain to the specialized field of the present invention and are thus inapt.

The cited Patent No. 5,890,173 to Yoda discloses apparatus and method to print information generally in the field of digital documents. As described in the '173 patent at column 3, lines 10 – 40, Yoda provides for dividing information so as to create separate documents with separate page numberings while preventing a portion of the information from being printed a second time. Yoda does not, however, use a specified portion of intercepted data as a key to access a database to determine other information, as defined in amended independent claims 1, 5, 10 and 11, as well as new claim 15 of the subject application.

The cited Patent No. 5,987,127 to Ikenoue et al. teaches an image forming

apparatus and copy management system, in which coded password access is needed to obtain certain information (see Figures 7, 8, 10 and 12) and the Summary of the Invention, column 2, lines 23 – 61. The document disclosed in the '127 patent generates an embedded image that includes a code pattern that can be utilized for controlling document distribution. The pattern is preferably so small that is not discernable to the naked eye. While dealing with controlled document creation, the '127 patent also does not disclose the tool and method of the present invention as depicted in the amended claims.

Warmus et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,327,599, deals with printing customized books in which certain versions contain certain information and others contain other information. The Warmus teaching, therefore, is similar to the well known practice of creating customized contracts by picking from an assortment of standard paragraphs according to the need of the recipient. It is thus respectfully submitted that neither the '599 patent nor the '173 & '127 patents discussed above anticipate or render obvious the present invention.

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,890,173 to Yoda. Claims 3 and 4 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over US Patent No. 5,890,173 to Yoda in view of Ikenoue et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,987,127. Claims 5 – 11 and 13 – 14 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as

unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,327,599 to Warmus et al. Claim 12 was rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over the Warmus patent in view of the Yoda patent.

It is respectfully submitted that none of the cited references pertains to the customization of individual copies of documents by obtaining information from a database accessed through utilization of specified portions of intercepted data as required by the amended claims. As disclosed and claimed in the instant application, a first copy of the document being generated includes related information, for example shipping terms or credit information, depending upon the intended recipient of the copy (see application page 2, lines 17 – 22).

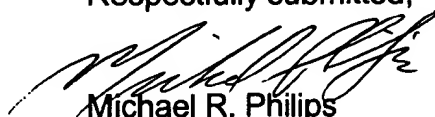
It is respectfully submitted that the additional cited prior art is not a barrier to obtaining a patent for the invention disclosed.

A marked-up copy of amended claims 1 - 3, 5 – 8, 10, 11, 13 and 14, showing the changes is appended hereto.

A check for the filing fee covering this Request for Continued Examination is enclosed in the amount of \$370.00. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct any additional fees deemed to be payable from our Deposit Account No. 11-0223.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all claims pending are allowable. Therefore, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



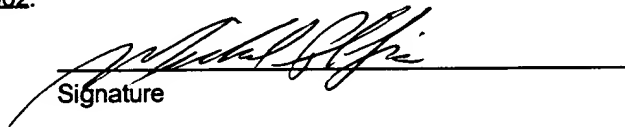
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Serial No. 09/197,844

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MARKED UP VERSION SHOWING CHANGES TO SPECIFICATION

Fig. 1 shows a functional block diagram of several steps to [the] be implemented in accordance with the teachings of the present invention. The arrangement of Fig. 1 includes a print spool block 101 which represents arriving data to be printed, the reformatting software 102 done in accordance with the teachings of the present invention, an exemplary database 103, multiple document generators 104 for interpreting and formatting and generating the numerous documents resulting from the reformatting software interacting with database 103 and the [principle] principal data received from 101, and a storage or print block 105.



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MARKED UP VERSION SHOWING CHANGES TO CLAIMS 1 – 3, 5 – 8, 10, 11, 13 and

14:

1. (Twice Amended) A document formatting tool comprising:

means for intercepting data [in a document] which is being sent to a printer from a print spool;

means for utilizing a specified portion of such intercepted data as a key to access a database to determine other information relevant to such data; and

means for printing [out] such data in a format different from that in which it was received [by] from said print spool [associated with said printer], such difference being based upon said other information received from the database.
2. (Twice Amended) The tool according to claim 1 wherein said difference includes generating multiple copies of [said] a document even when only one copy of said [document] data was received [by] from the print spool.
3. (Twice Amended) The tool according to claim 1 further comprises multiple document generators for generating multiple documents which all comprise said data and differ from each other by [certain] the other information derived from said database.
5. (Amended) A document formatting tool comprising:

means for intercepting data [in a document] in an original format which is being sent to a printer from a print spool;

means for utilizing **a specified portion of** such intercepted data as a key to a database to determine other information relevant to such data;

means for generating a [new] document comprising said data in a new format different from said original format based upon said other information determined from the database.

6. (Amended) The document formatting tool of claim 5, wherein said difference in format is that said [new] document comprises multiple copies of said [original document] **data**.

7. (Amended) The document formatting tool of claim 5, wherein said difference in format is that said [new] document is [proper] **designated** for double-side printing by said printer.

8. (Amended) The document formatting tool of claim 5 wherein said [new] document further comprises additional content acquired from said other information.

10. (Amended) A document generating tool comprising:

means for intercepting original data [in a document] which is being sent to a printer

from a print spool;

means for utilizing **a specified portion of** such intercepted data as a key to a database to determine additional information relevant to such data; and

means for generating multiple documents each comprising said original data as well as additional data from said additional information, wherein said additional data **is different** in each of said multiple documents [is different from each other].

11. (Amended) A document generating tool comprising:

means for intercepting original data [in a document] which is being sent to a printer from a print spool, said original data comprising a first portion and a second portion;

means for utilizing **a specified one of said portions of** such intercepted data as a key to a database to determine other information relevant to such data; and

means for generating at least two documents based on said determined other information, one comprising both portions of said original data, while the other only comprising said first portion of said original data.

13. (Amended) The document generating tool of claim 11, wherein at least one of said documents further comprises additional content acquired from said [other information] **database**.

14. (Amended) The document generating tool of claim 11, wherein [said] each **said**

document has different additional content from each other acquired from said [other information] **database**.